Sri K. H. RANGANATH.—In the meanwhile I want to bring to your notice that we are not able to move about, in our guest house.

Mr. SPEAKER.—Hon'ble member may kindly come and meet me at 3 O'clock.

Then, there is a Call Attention by Sri Vatal Nagaraj. So far as this is concerned, it is weaker than the adjournment motion. It is regarding the arrest of Sri T. R. Shamanna and Sri M. S. Krishnan. The fact of arrest, I have already communicated to the House. So, the House is aware. If there is anything else, it is a point for debate which can be taken up in the course of the budget discussion. Hence I am unable to admit it and I am disallowing it.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE *re*: PRESS STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION ON THE BUDGET.

Mr. SPEAKER.—I suppose there is another matter.

† Sri C. K. RAJIAH SETTY (Chicknaikanahalli).—Sir, under rule 177 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Assembly I have sent this privilege motion. On 22nd June 1967 the Minister for Information has revealed some figures of the recast budget. You are aware that the Chief Minister announced in the last session that the entire budget has to be recast because we are getting less grant from the Central Government and the House itself was adjourned for that reason. Now, when the budget is recast it has to be placed before this House for discussion. But the Minister for Information about four days back has held a Press Conference and revealed the entire figures. It is like this: "The Mysore Cabinet on Wednesday decided that the total cut in the expenditure of Rs. 271.7 lakhs with a view to mopping up resources to increase current year's plan allocation." etc. Apart from this, he has stated in what departments the cut is applied. Whether it is recast budget or budget, it is all the same. It is the privilege of this House to consider it before it goes to the Press. It is highly irregular and the very purpose of our meeting is not served. It is unfortunate how this was discussed in the Press before the House could have the opportunity to do so. The correct thing ought to have been to place the recast budget before the House.

Mr. SPEAKER.—Before the hon. member proceeds further I would like to know whether he means budget leakage is a breach of privilege? I can say it may be anything but not a breach of privilege.

Sri C. K. RAJIAH SETTY.—Even in the Lok Sabha there are many instances where budget is not at all revealed before it is presented to the House. If it is revealed, it is a breach of privilege. As per the Rules of Procedure, budget will be presented only once. This time it has been put

(Sri C. K. Rajiah Setty)

off because of the Chief Minister's statement. I do not know what difference is there when the budget is recast. It is a new budget and therefore it is a breach of privilege.

Mr. SPEAKER.—I had occasions to study this point, on a prior occasion when two other members brought such motions. First they said there has been leakage of budget and want to bring in adjournment motion for discussion and later on wanted to refer it to the privileges committee. All that was explained to them and ultimately it was taken that it is not a matter which can go to the Privileges Committee. It may be the worst thing that can happen but not a breach of privilege. I have a note prepared of the rulings given and the hon'ble member may go through it. So far as I am conceened, I entertain no doubt. It is not a question of breach of privilege and I will not like the House to be made a party to refer it to the Privileges Committee.

Sri S. R. KANTHI.—The hon'ble Chair is quite correct in saying that any leakage of budget is not a breach of privilege. On various occasions allegations have been made and rulings have been given that any leakage of budget is not a breach of privilege as pointed out by the Chair. It has also been held in other Assemblies and the Lok Sabha that it is not a breach of privilege. At the most it can amount to a breach of Official Secrets Act and it is for the Government to take action and not for this House.

Sri C. K. RAJIAH SETTY.—The Minister has revealed in the Press statement certain things.

†Sri S. SIVAPPA.—The hon'ble Minister for Parliamentary Affairs has revealed one thing that if it is a leakage of the budget, the officers would be dealt with. If it is an officer he can be dealt with but if it is a Minister what should be done ? So, my hon'ble friend Sri C. K. Rajiah Setty is right in saying that because of revelation of some figures of the budget to the Press, the Minister has committed breach of privilege. Any information regarding the recasting of the budget, should be first given to the House and that is the privilege of the House. So in view of this, I request you to allow this motion and let the Privileges Committee examine it.

Mr. SPEAKER.—I say that there is absolutely no shadow of doubt that so far as the matter before the House is concerned, there is no breach of privilege. If necessary, I will hold over giving my ruling till we meet after 3 P.M. today in the meanwhile if the members have no patience to read the references given to them I may only say that I am unable to admit this motion. The members may read all that has been stated and see whether there is any substance. Sri S. Sivappa may kindly look into this before telling me these things.